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Candid
wherein said TNIK protein comprises an amino acid sequence having at least about 95% identity to SEQ ID NO:34, and wherein said TNIK protein will bind to said Traf2 or Nck protein in the absence of said candidate bioactive agent.

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21. (amended) The method of Claim 19, wherein said TNIK protein and said Traf2 or Nck protein are combined first.

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22. (amended) A method of screening for a bioactive agent capable of modulating the activity of a TNIK protein, said method comprising:

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a) adding a candidate bioactive agent to a cell comprising a recombinant nucleic acid encoding a TNIK protein; and

b) determining the effect of said candidate bioactive agent on said cell;

wherein said TNIK protein comprises an amino acid sequence having at least about 95% identity to SEQ ID NO:34, and wherein said TNIK protein will bind to Traf2 or Nck.

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23. (amended) The method of Claim 22, wherein a library of candidate bioactive agents is added to a population of cells comprising a recombinant nucleic acid encoding a TNIK protein.

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24. (new) The method of Claim 22, wherein determining the effect of said candidate bioactive agent on said cell involves measuring JNK pathway activation in said cell.

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25. (new) The method of Claim 22, wherein determining the effect of said candidate bioactive agent on said cell involves observing actin filament rearrangement in said cell.

add 35
REMARKS

Claims 19-25 are pending. Claims 19-23 have been amended and Claims 24 and 25 have been added. Support for Claim 24 is found, for example, at page 6, lines 12-19 and page 36, lines 1-8. Support for Claim 25 is found, for example, at page 7, lines 13-19 and page 36, lines 1-8. A clean set of the pending claims appears above.